GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1944
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2015
National Rural Drinking Water Programme
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Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the objective, salient features and the criteria fixed for funding the National Rural Drinking Water Programme to provide safe drinking water to all schools in the country;
(b) whether certain States including Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh and public representatives have requested the Union Government to provide assistance to install hand pumps/tube wells particularly in girls education institutions under the said programme; and
(c) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto, State/UT-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
(SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

(a) Rural Drinking Water Supply is a State Subject. The objectives of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) is to provide every rural person including school children with adequate safe water for drinking, and other basic domestic needs on a sustainable basis, with prescribed water quality standards. Achieving this aim and objective is a continuous process.

Under NRDWP, though funds are not separately earmarked for the purpose, States/UTs can provide drinking water supply facilities to schools by utilising NRDWP (Coverage) funds released to them. The assistance under the programme include provision of drinking water supply in schools which were constructed prior to 2007. Further in schools constructed thereafter under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), the facility of drinking water is provided in the vicinity of the school premises.

(b) & (c) The Ministry has been receiving requests from the public representatives including Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh to provide assistance to install hand pumps/tube wells within their constituencies. However, as execution of rural drinking water supply schemes is done at the State level after getting the approval of State Level Scheme Sanctioning Committee (SLSSC) in which Ministry is represented by the designated Area Officer, such requests are sent to the respective State Governments with a request to consider such proposals on priority as per NRDWP guidelines and inform the action taken in this regard to the public representatives. Such requests also include requests to provide assistance to install hand pumps/tube wells in girls education institutions .